

THE

Love-Lottery:

OR,

A Woman the Prize.

Being a Pleasant New Invention,

Where any Maid or Widdow that puts in Ten Shillings, shall be sure of a Husband, and perhaps Five Hundred Pound to her Portion, there being above Twenty Prizes to One Blank; with the same Chance to Batchelors or Widdowers; to be Drawn on *Midsummer-Day* next.

Also, an *Office of Intelligence*, to be kept at the same Place; where any Maid or Widdow, Batchelor or Widdower, may Enter their Names, Fortunes and Characters, and be advis'd of suitable Matches in a very little time, without any manner of Trouble.

The like never before Publish'd.

London: Printed for the Undertakers of this
LOTTERY. 1709.

THE

LOVE-LOTTERY:

OR

A Woman the Prize.

Being a Most New Invention.

Where any Maid or Widow that puts in Ten Shillings, shall be sure of a Husband, and perhaps five times as much to her, there being above Twenty Prizes to be drawn, with the same Chance to Bachelors, who are to be drawn on the same day.



Also, an Office of Love-Lottery to be kept at the same Place; where any Maid or Widow, Bachelor or Widow, may enter their Names, Houses and Children, and be advised of suitable Matches in a very little time, without any manner of Trouble.

The first number being 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.

London: Printed for the Undertakers of this LOTTERY.

The Love-Lottery, &c.

TIS something strange, that among the Number of Wise Projectors, with which this Nation is plentifully Stock'd, none of 'em shou'd ever think of a Lottery for Marriages; which seems to be of a much more taking and edifying Species, than one lately propos'd for raising 3 Millions: For I dare undertake, that as soon as the Books are open'd, this shall have 40 Subscribers, (if not 100) to their one, and judge then which is the more feasible Project: Which, as I've said, makes it next to a Miracle, that neither *Slyford*, *Murray*, nor none of 'em shou'd ever think of it to raise a Sum of Money by, since there is not any one thing on Earth so Endeavouring, or for which People will part with their Money so freely. Indeed they laid a Tax upon Marriages, but what signify'd that? it only made 'em the more unwilling to Marry: They shou'd have propos'd to have help'd 'em to Matches, and then every one, especially the Women, would have been striving which shou'd pay first. But above all, 'tis most wonderful that *Povey*, nor *Prat*, shou'd never get it into their Weekly Papers, or make a Stock-Office of *Intelligence* of it. But, Gentlemen, 'tis now too late, for the Project is undertaken; and tho' not on the Nation's Account, as to the *Raising of Money*, yet we hope 'will turn to good Account to the Publick: And to the Satisfaction of all our Subscribers, and to encourage

rage others to make the more haste that the Lottery may be full, we have above 300 that have sent in their Names already, (above 200 of which are Widows) and more are hourly bringing in : And what will it be then, when the Office is entirely settled, and the Books open for Subscription ? And whereas in other Lotteries formerly, one run away with 1000 *l.* another with 500 *l.* and others with 200 *l.* 100, 50, 20, and 10 *l.* here it is propos'd to do Good to the Publick, and that no one shall run away with the Prize, but shall answer the Ends of so plausible a Design, and serve as a Fortune to those that want it.

It is well known, that the Native Modesty and Bashfulness of the Fair Sex, is a great Tye upon their Inclinations, nor is it permitted them to speak for themselves, let them have what Mind they will to Marry : Therefore it is for their Interest and Convenience, that this Lottery is purely Invented ; that likely and agreeable young Women should not be thrown away, or die of the Pip for want of Husbands.

It is not to be presum'd, that we expect any that have Fortunes shou'd Subscribe to us, for 'twas never our Design ; but for such who have no Fortunes, at least very small ones, to help them off ; for we well know, that those who have Money, will be too Proud to come here for Husbands, when they are sure of having Suiters enough upon that very Account. But then there are other young Women, and I may say a great many other, who are equal to, nay, perhaps surpassing them in Beauty, Good Humour, and all agreeable Qualities, that are as worthy of good Husbands as they are, tho' not so rich ones. And must these go unprovided ? I'll assure you the Case is very hard.

How many comely neat Girles are there in Town and Country, that have Beauty, and good Qualities enough

enough to set them off, and yet are render'd undesirable, for want of Money; among which may be reckon'd many inferior Tradesmen's Daughters, Ladies Women, Chamber-Maids, Laundry-Maids, House-Maids or other Servants: Also, we may take in a great number of *Exchange-Girls*, Sempstresses, Head-Dressers, Clear-Starchers, Mantoe, and Fur-below-Scarfe-Makers. And is it not pity but these should be provided for, and made useful to the End they were Born to. I think every Parish ought to contribute to the Project, since it will considerably lessen the Increase of Natural (I won't say Bastard) Children, and encrease the Number of Marriage-Births and Burials, and bring in a competent Sum into the Publick Box.

On the other hand, 'tis as easy to be imagin'd that there are many young Men, newly come out of their Times; as Bricklayers, Joyners, Glasiers, Carpenters, Butchers, Poulterers, Bakers, and such-like Trades, that would be glad of a good agreeable Woman, and a small Sum of Money to set them up: Which by only paying 10 s. into the Office, and Subscribing their Name and Abroad, they will have a fair Chance for. Nay, the Benefit of this Lottery will be such to every Subscriber, that there will be no Blanks, or at least but one to Twenty Prizes: So that every one will be sure to succeed, tho' some may have the Fortune to get most Money; and if any seem displeas'd at their Lot when the Prizes are drawn, it is but resigning their Interest to another, paying 10 s. more for the use of the Office, and they are at liberty to make their Choice elsewhere, or take the Benefit of the next Lottery to be drawn the Year following.

So that there is no Imposition laid upon any Body; and that no just Cause or Reason may happen any

any way in that Respect, all due Care will be taken by the Office to enquire, not only into the Qualities, Humours and Imperfections of the Subscribers, but also into their Reputations: So that none will, or must expect to be admitted, that are Obnoxious by any Disease or Deformity, or have any way suffer'd their Reputations to be Tainted.

But in Case it shall happen (which is a hard Matter to prove) that any Batchelor shall meet with a Leaky Vessel, we think he may well venture to continue the Voyage of Matrimony in her, when she is either Freight'd, or at least Ballast'd with a little Money: And besides, he has but the common Chance of all Husbands, for any Man may be deceiv'd in that Case, and if he offers to make any Complaints, when he finds it otherwise upon Examination, 'tis a thousand to one if she does not impute it to his Ignorance, and half persuades him it is not as he imagines: So that there is no way, but to take a Woman's Word for it; in which Case, there is no other Inconveniency in this Office, than in all Marriages whatsoever.

And because none may be deceiv'd, or falsely intrude themselves upon the Office, we think fit to give Notice, what sort of Persons are (or rather are not) to be admitted for Subscribers.

First, No young Women that have unhappily Languish'd under an Unnatural Timpany, who may properly be said to be neither Maids nor Widdows, and so do not come under the Denomination of this OFFICE.

Secondly, No Virgin is to exceed 25, nor Widdow 35, unless she has Money to supply the Defects of her Years, and to bring Certificates of their Age. As for the Men, no Age is Prescrib'd, provided they be Strong, Vigorous, and Healthy: However, in general, not to exceed 50.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, No Maid or Widdow that lies under any Contract of Marriage, or that has ever formerly made any Solemn Contract with any Man, and afterwards wilfully broke it. No Virgin for whom any Man has ever Hang'd himself, nor no Widdow that broke her first Husband's Heart. The same Injunctions, tho' not so likely to be necessary, are likewise laid upon the Men.

Fourthly, Every Maid or Widdow that Subscribes into this Office, must be Strait, Agreeable, and free from all Diseases, (the *Green-Sickness* Excepted) for which Marriage is reckon'd a certain Cure. Nor to be any way Defym'd in Body or Mind: No Crook'd-Disiples, nor Round-Shoulders, that may be hid by a Furbelow'd-Scarfe, or Bandy-Legs that lye conceal'd under their Petty-Coats. As for the Men, these Deformities are easie to be perceiv'd.

Fifthly, No Maid that chaws Charcoal, or Tobacco-Pipes, or is let Blood in the Foot for a Pain in her Stomach; nor no Widdow that Smoaks Tobacco for the *Chollick*, or Drinks *Geneva* or *Cinnamon-Waters* to Cure her of the *Vapours*.

Sixthly, No Maid or Widdow that has any manner of *Eye-Sores* or Imperfection about her, but can take it upon her Corporal Oath, she is Sound, Wind and Limb, and will make it appear when she comes to Bed to her Husband.

Seventhly, No Batchelor that has ever been Guilty of breaking a Contract of Marriage, or has ever beguil'd any Young Woman under that Notion, and not made his Words good; or when he has unfortunately got her with Child, and perswaded her to destroy the little Off-spring, to secure him from being sent for a Soldier.

Eighthly, No Widdower that has been Drunk for a Year together, for Joy of Burying his first Wife,

or

or by his Morose Domineering Humour, gives Reason to suspect he will soon break the Heart of the second: And in the General, none that are Rakes, Atheists, Sots, Swearers, or Debauchees; or that have been above once Cur'd of a small Clap, and never design to run the Hazard of getting another.

Of all which Exceptions, A R T I C L E S will be Printed at large when the Office is open'd: In the mean time, 'tis visible by what is said already, that the Design is good and well founded, and cannot but meet with Encouragement, and be of Service to the Publick.

Therefore all Maids and Widdows, Batchelors or Widdowers, that are inclin'd to Subscribe, are desired to send in their Names and Money, together with the Places of their Abodes, forthwith to the Office, in *Cupid's-Court*, in *Heart-street*, on the Backside of *Love-Alley*, in the New-Buildings; which Places are so call'd and Christen'd, from the Erecting this Memorable and Beneficial Office among them.

At the same Place, and by the same Undertakers, will be kept likewise an Office of Intelligence, for those who are above, or unwilling to appear in the afore-said Lottery; where any Maid, Widdow, Batchelor, or Widdower, may send or come, and enter their Names, the Substance of their Fortunes, with their Characters, and Places of Abode, and be advis'd in a little time of such Matches as are suitable to their Interest and Inclinations, without any manner of Trouble, paying 2 s. 6 d. the Entry thereof.

“ Proposals are to be given *Gratis* to every Subscriber at the Office, wherein every thing is fully Explain'd; To be Drawn on *Midsummer-Day* next, and so every Year on the same Day.